

COLLEEN OWENS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Colleen Owens for her award of Colorado's 2016 High School Principal of the Year. The Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) and a committee of her peers from the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals (CASSP) chose Principal Owens for this award.

For over five years Principal Owens has passionately worked to be a positive influence in the lives of students, teachers, parents and our community. She has sought to eliminate and improve upon many of the issues the school was facing, including a drastically decreasing enrollment of nearly 100 students per year. Her tireless efforts to help establish a firm sense of community to "RamNation" (as the school community is called) have helped to stabilize and reach new levels of engagement and achievement. She was also instrumental in bringing the one-of-a-kind Academy Program—which offers courses ranging from engineering, health, business, performing arts, global studies, and more—to help students prepare for college and other career opportunities.

Principal Owens's roots are deep within Green Mountain School. An alumna herself, she has served diverse roles at Green Mountain High School including student, teacher and assistant principal. In addition to supporting student success through the Academy model, Principal Owens promotes strong instruction and teacher development through Professional Learning Communities. Beyond her role in leading both students and staff, Owens has worked vigorously to strengthen the school's communication.

To say she is an accomplished administrator is an understatement. Principal Owens' dedication and enthusiasm for education is reflected in her exemplary contributions to the profession. I extend my deepest thanks to Principal Owens for her service to the students of Green Mountain High School. Thank you for your continuous dedication to education and to our local community.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April 28 as Workers' Memorial Day, and to honor the men and women around the world who have suffered injuries or lost their lives in the workplace.

In Connecticut, the unions of the AFL-CIO are observing Workers' Memorial Day today with ceremonies on the steps of our State Capitol in Hartford and at the Workers Memorial in the Town of Groton's Washington Park.

Last Saturday was the 29th anniversary of one of the worst workplace disasters in Connecticut's history. On April 23, 1987,

L'Ambiance Plaza, a 16-story building under construction in Bridgeport, collapsed. Twenty-eight construction workers lost their lives.

This disaster was preventable, and it was a wakeup call for Connecticut—and for our nation—that we can never afford to take workplace safety for granted. We've made some progress in the three decades since the L'Ambiance Plaza tragedy, but in the United States, 13 workers still die on the job during an average workday.

In Connecticut, 33 men and women died due to workplace accidents in 2014. That's more than two workers every month, just in my state, who don't return home to their loved ones at the end of a shift.

Nearly half of these men and women worked in the construction, transportation, and warehousing industries—industries that sustain thousands of Connecticut jobs. These workers are powering the economy of our state and of the nation, and we have a responsibility to keep them safe.

Today, on Workers' Memorial Day, we honor the memories and sacrifices of the thousands of men and women throughout the world who have been injured or lost their lives while doing their job.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DIANNA MARIE HEGEDUIS ON THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF HER PASSING

HON. JOSEPH J. HECK

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dianna Marie Hegeduis for her service to the state of Nevada.

Dianna was a resident of Las Vegas for 35 years and passed away on May 6, 2011, just five years ago.

A 1992 graduate of UNLV, Dianna pursued a legal education at Brigham Young University before returning to Nevada to start her career.

In her professional life, Dianna served as the executive director and general counsel for the Nevada Board of Osteopathic Medicine, where she worked to help improve access to medical care for Nevada residents in rural areas.

She also served as the Chief Deputy Attorney for the State of Nevada under Attorney General Brian Sandoval, arguing and winning several key cases before the Nevada Supreme Court.

But it was in her spare time serving as a community volunteer where Dianna made the most lasting impact on those around her.

She mentored young attorneys and helped them with job placements.

She served as a volunteer judge for high school debate competitions.

She was active in assisting members of our senior citizen community with their everyday needs.

Dianna Marie Hegeduis was an exemplary Las Vegas and Nevada, and it is my great honor to join with her friends and family today to memorialize her dedication to the Silver State.

CELEBRATING FORT LUPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Fort Lupton Middle School for its recognition as an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) National Demonstration school and an AVID School of Distinction, as well as for winning the coveted Game Plan for Success Award.

These merits are most deserved. Staying true to their motto, "Every Student, Every Day, Achieves and Learns," the students, teachers, and administration of Fort Lupton have dedicated themselves to the pursuit of education and the pursuit of college and career readiness.

If you walk through Fort Lupton, you will see data from the latest benchmark exams displayed throughout the building, celebrating success and conveying the need to work hard and aim high. It is because of the school's commitment to hard work and data-driven teaching that they have earned the prestigious Game Plan for Success Award. To honor this achievement, U.S. Women's National Soccer Star Megan Rapinoe presented the school with the \$5,000 prize and shared with the students tips for success in and out of the classroom.

Today, I also honor the principal of Fort Lupton Middle School, Candace Kensinger. Ms. Kensinger has shown incredible leadership and her passion for education is an inspiration for students and educators alike.

Mr. Speaker, I send my sincerest congratulations to the entire Fort Lupton Middle School community. Their academic success serves as an example throughout Colorado and the United States of America.

CHAZ VIGIL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chaz Vigil for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Chaz Vigil is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chaz Vigil is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chaz Vigil for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.